News

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Picking up the pieces:

Instructor John Velasquez lost his home in the fire, but not his hope.

Style

PAGE A real lip smacker:

RSC's production of Craig Lucas'
"Prelude to a Kiss," opens today.

Feature

PAGE Top teacher:

10 Mary Anne Anthony wins Distinguished Faculty Award.

RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE

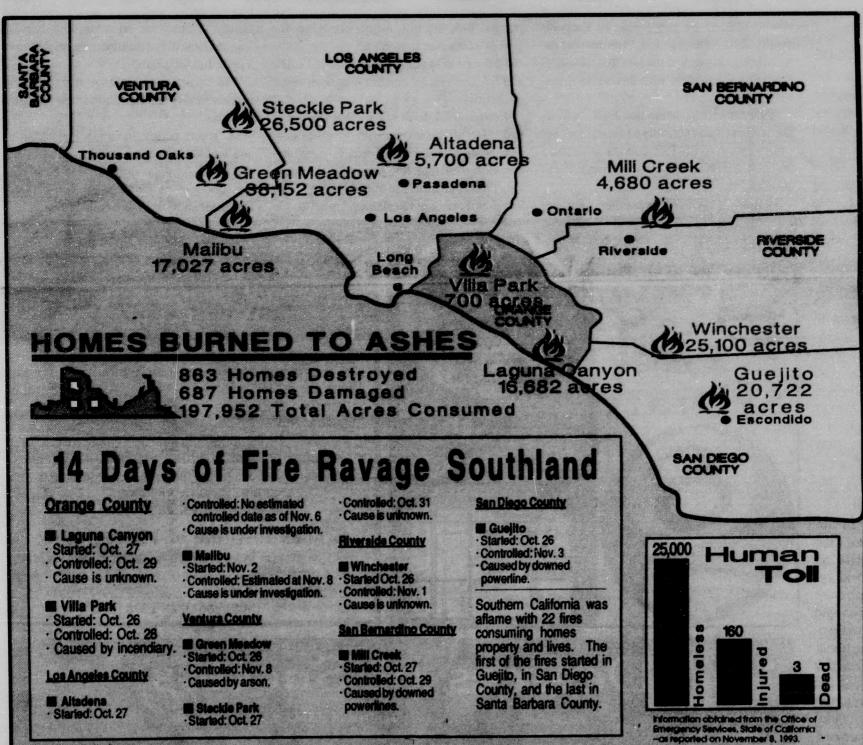
el Don

Volume 70 Number 18

17th at Bristol Street Santa Ana, California 92706

Thursday, November 11, 1993

FIRESTORIV



■ Four RSC faculty's houses lost in wildfires

■ Nine RSC fire tech. instructors fight blaze

By Roger Denman el Don News Editor

Ferocious fires fueled by intense Santa Ana winds swept through Southern California destroying four RSC faculty's homes and the home of Bill Ralston, son of RSC Trustee Shirley Ralston.

The fires, which consumed 197,952 acres of land and are responsible for the deaths of three people, raged uncontrollably throughout the southland for more than two weeks.

"I lost everything. One minute 1 had a home that I spent 21 years of my life in and the next moment that was all gone," said RSC philosophy instructor John Velasquez.

Many fire technology classes were canceled during the wildfire because several of the instructors were actively involved in fighting the fires that ravaged the county.

In all, nine fire tech faculty members were dispersed throughout Southern California to fight all of the fires that destroyed the southland, said Richard Keller, RSC Fire Technology Chief.

Capt. Bill Stroud of the Anaheim Please see BLAZE, Page 3

OPINION: What is in the mind of an arsonist? Page 8

Blaze destroys hopes, dreams

After the fires claimed her home, Tammi Withers is left to pick up the pieces of her shattered life.

By Larry Murrieta el Don Staff Writer

On October 26, 1993, Tammi Withers lost everything: her porcelain doll collection, her dog, her sense of security, and according to Tammi, "All because of one insane person with

a match."

Tammi is one of over 2,500 people displaced by the recent fire storms that swept through Laguna Beach. Before last Tuesday, this 21-year-old RSC student's biggest worry was whether or not to eat lunch off campus. Now, she wonders if she can scrape up enough money to keep some kind of shelter over her head.

"It's all so scary," said Tammi. "My family and I had a home last weekend but now all we have are ashes and a slab of blackened foundation."

Like everyone else in Laguna Beach and around the Southland, Tammi is putting all her efforts into rebuilding her life and the home of her family.

"I made the decision to quit school on my own," Tammi said. "The most important place for me to be is with my family or at work, either lending emotional or financial support... It was my home also and I think it is only right that I should add productively to re-establishing our foundation. Our home was a place where we slept, ate, or checked in for messages. It was the center of our family. It's where we came to for shelter during the bad times and to share in the good times. I think the biggest step in our recovery is to rebuild as a family. We need that now more than ever."

Tammi and her family are the lucky ones, if you can call them "lucky." Both her mother and her father are surgeons

Please see HOME, Page 2

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CAMPUS NEWS

Briefly

Fight The Relapse

Alcohol and drug abuse belong to the most widespread addictive illnesses of today's society. Those who try to get out need to fight a strong enemy: relapse. This is the topic of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Lecture and Film Series on Tuesday, Nov. 16 at the Santa Ana Campus in room D-202 beginning at 5p.m. A 45minute lecture will be followed by a video seminar and discussion.

Counseling Available

Special counseling and support services for RSC older students re-entering college are available at New Horizons. The services includes transitional and personal counseling. Career, life and academic planning is also available. For more information contact Gloria Davenport in the Johnson Center at 564-6150.

Legal Assistant Workshops

Interested in being a legal assistant? Dr. Clarence Lee will discuss the market trends, career paths, requirements for the AA degree, entry level positions and professional organizations at the Career Workshop today. The hour seminars begin at noon and 6.pm. in the Career/life Planning Center on the Santa Ana Campus. For reservations call 564-6113.

Planning To Transfer?

November is the month to file applications for any California State University or University of California campus in order to enroll for the 1994 Fall semester. Applications are available in the Transfer Center on the Santa Ana Campus, and in the Counseling Centers at both the Santa Ana and Orange Campus locations. Budgets are tight and some universities may close to new applicants earlier than in the past.

Jazz Band To Play It Up

This year's fall jazz extravaganza are brushing up some hot new licks for their Fall concert featuring the "Jazz Giant" on Nov. 21. Buddy Collette, a world renowned recording artist and premier woodwind specialist, will be performing with the RSC Big Band under the direction of David Lopez. The best in big band, small group and vocal jazz promises something for everyone. The concert will be held in Phillips Hall on the Santa Ana Campus and is open to everyone. General Admission \$8. Students, seniors, children and RSC staff admission is \$6. For further information call 564-5661.

Best Of Show

The el Don took first place in the recent Best of Show contest held at the Associated Collegiate Press convention in Dallas, Texas. The contest included hundreds of community colleges and universities from across the United States. Best of Show is an award given to the top college newspaper for overall general excellence. The categories were broken up into two and four year schools for tabloids and broadsheets. This is the second time in four years that the el Don was so honored as the nation's top community college newspaper.

-Compiled by Sarah K. Cron

HOME: fire victim drops classes

Continued from page 1

and can afford to rebuild quickly. "But it isn't a case of simply rebuilding," said Dr. Johnathan Withers, Tammi's father.

"Our entire world was inside that house when it burned to the ground," said Dr. Withers. "It's rough when even your sense of security is taken away. Tammi is staying with some friends and her older brother found a room at his college... This is the first time we've had to be separated for any extended period of time and if I have anything to say about it, it will be the last."

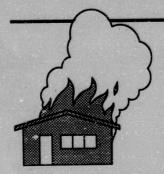
The shock of losing their home isn't the only dilemma that the Withers are dealing

"I had no idea that Tammi had dropped her classes until yesterday," said Dr. Withers. "Her mother and I have always stressed the importance of education and for her to just stop everything is a little bothering. She never discussed it with her mother or my-

"My dad is the type of man who has always prided himself on being able to keep his family safe," Tammi said. "I think that the most bothering aspect for him to deal with is not being able to deal with this whole disaster on his own."

"There is a little shame involved," admits Dr. Withers, "and possibly a bruised ego, but I'm so proud of the fact that my wife and I did such a wonderful job of raising selfless children."

Tammi, as well as her brother Alec, are



"Everything is destroyed and in ruins and I'm so full of rage and anger for the scum who did this to us and to the others who have lost their homes in the flames. I want to see him brought to justice, which for me, is nothing less than setting him

on fire and dancing around him with marshmallows and graham crackers.... How could anyone do this to other Tammi Withers, people?" **RSC** student

indeed children of privilege but act as though they weren't.

"We could have had a free ride throughout the rest of our lives," said Tammi about the opportunities that her parents could have presented to her and her brother. "We both choose to go to a junior college and pay our own way because we both feel that any success we achieve would mean more. Plus we also felt a little guilty about having our parents foot the bill, especially when the cost of education is so high."

The decision to rebuild has come to Tammi and her family a lot quicker than their sense of security.

"Personally, I don't know what I'm going to do after all this is over with," Tammi said. "Everything is destroyed and in ruins and I'm so full of rage and anger for the scum who did this to us and to the others who have lost their homes in the flames. I want to see

him brought to justice, which for me, is nothing less than setting him on fire and dancing around him with marshmallows and graham crackers... How could anyone do this to other people?"

"As if having to deal with these ruins wasn't enough, people are already talking about the dangers that accompany the rainy season," said Tammi. "All we need now are more worries and more stress. Still, my family is dead set on rebuilding here in Laguna Beach, but this time, we might move a little further inland."

With so many decisions to reach, Tammi and her family are thankful for their support

"So many people have reached out to us and lent their support... It just amazes me that even complete strangers can be so caring and I want them all to know that I appreciate and love them all."





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Cindy Licerio / el Don Photo

Arson is suspected in the destruction of more than 400 Laguna Beach homes.

BLAZE:

Continued from page 1

Fire Department, who is also a part-time instructor of fire technology at RSC fought the fires near Villa Park and spent 36 straight hours fighting the Laguna Beach fire.

"This (fire) is what is called a campaign fire. It just kept going. This was a tricky fire because we had heavy winds, thick vegetation and a sub-par water system to deal with," said Stroud.

Backfires, or fires that are set intentionally to burn away dry brush before the major fire can reach them, were used to successfully

eliminate the fires, according to Keller.

College assistance has come to the fire victims as well as those who have fought the fires. Impacted employees will need to complete forms and write "Excused with pay" on these forms in order that they can be paid in their absence.

"We (RSC) want these people to know that we are deeply concerned for their well-being and stand ready to assist them," said RSC chancellor Vivian Blevins.

"We are very concerned about these people (fire victims) and we want to do everything we can to help them in any way, this is obviously a very traumatic experience for them," said Sara Lundquist, dean of student services

California voters shut down school voucher initiative

Prop. 174
loses by
2-1 margin;
supporters say
they will fight on

By Sarah K. Cron el Don Editor in chief

Proposition 174, the school voucher initiative that would have shifted tax dollars to private schools was squashed by a 2 to 1 ratio, Nov.2, sending its supporters back to the drawing board.

The measure school-choice advocates and supporters of public education pitted against each other in the most heated debate of the year

The initiative would have provided parents with \$2,600 voucher redeemable at any private or public school.

The intent was to unleash com-

petition between schools in order to provide a better education for students.

"I think that what this says is that Prop. 174 was a very bad proposed piece of legislation, and that vouchers are not the right answer," said Bob Nelson, who helped plan the No on 174 campaign. "But that doesn't mean our schools don't need help. They need a lot of help."

Vivian Blevins, RSC chancellor, agreed that the initiative was bad from the start but added that the measure will not be shut out so easily.

"It (the proposition) will be back in '94 without all the wrinkles," she said. "It will resurface in a much more acceptable package."

Although it was defeated, Prop. 174 opened the lid on the current state of California's school system.

"I think it is a clear message to all of us in education that we need to address the issues that are of concern to the people that support the vouchers," said Blevins.

"We need to get serious about funding public schools," she said. More than 700 Orange County residents volunteered in the provoucher campaign, whose local headquarters were located in Mark Bucher's construction company's Tustin office.

Although they were defeated this time around, supporters of Prop.174 are gearing up for the 1994 election year.

"We'll be back," Bucher said.
"They (the opponents) were hoping for a resounding defeat. This is not enough for them to claim they can put this to bed...The movement is alive and well."

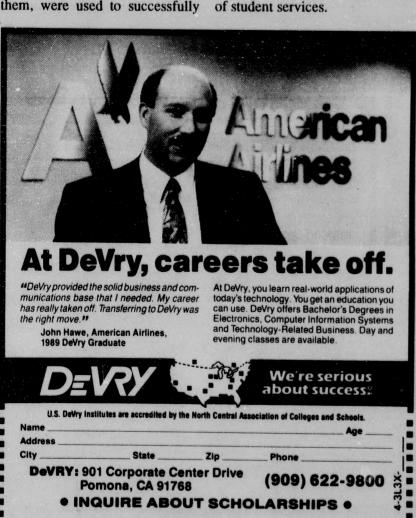
Of the seven initiatives only two came out on top.

Faced with two weeks of savage wildfires, voters passed Prop. 172, the initiative to extend the half-cent sales tax.

The measure should generate \$714 million in one year for fire safety, police and court spending.

Voters passed the property transfers after disasters just in time for those who lost their homes in the recent fires.

Along with school vouchers, voters ousted housing loan assistance, low-rent housing projects, budget change and school bonds.



Explore the world this winter.

1994 WINTER SESSION (JANUARY 3-21) AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

Geography 100, 140 and 306 are just a few of the wide variety of courses we'll be offering during the 1994 Winter Session at California State University, Long Beach. Registration for the 1994 Winter Session

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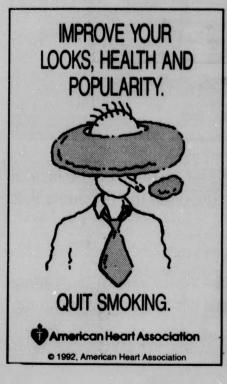
begins Wednesday, November 3. For more information or to request a complete listing of course offerings (available after 11/3/93), call University Extension Services at (310) 985-2360.

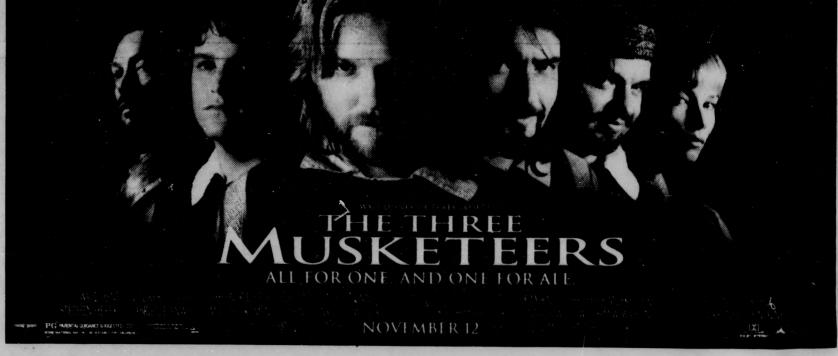
Subject to change, the following is a sample listing of 1994 Winter Session courses:

SERVICES

ANTH 322 California GEOG 306 United States & Hist 173 Recent United Indians (3) Canada (3) States History 3) GEOG 100 World Regional GEOL 102 General Hist 300 The United Geography (3) Geology (3) States Past & Present (3) GEOL 104 Geology GEOG 140 Introduction to Physical Laboratory (1) Hsc 4201 International Geography (3) Health (3) HIST 110 World Antiquity (3)

THE PER UNIT FEE FOR BASIC LECTURE COURSES IS \$110 COURSE SEMESTER UNITS ARE LISTED IN ()





Images

el Don

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RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE

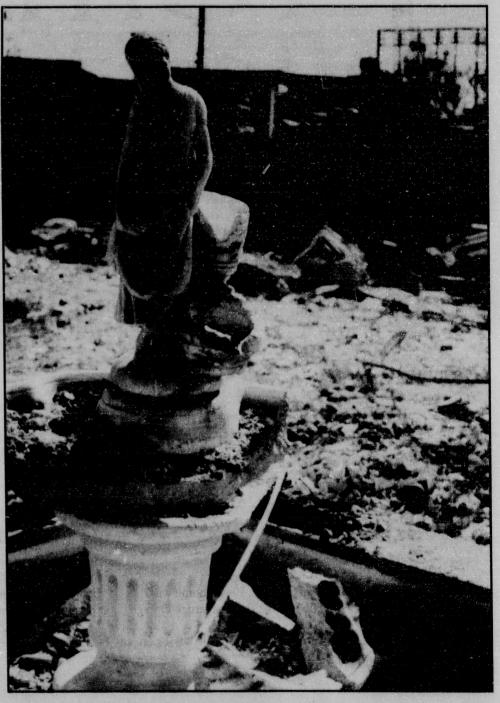
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1993



Still standing Ironically this
chimney, which
once provided
safety from flickering embers, still
stands intact amid
the aftermath of
the firestorm.

After Photos by Cindy Licerio The Fill Of Licerio Photos by Cindy Licerio Phot





(Above) Water-less fountain - The sad look on the face of this girlish statue epitomizes the emotions of the residents that lost everything in the blaze.

(Left) Ancient Rome revisited - Remnants of household items and decor are piled in the space which was once a home.



Photos by Cindy Licerio

rom light to DARKNESS

By Roger Denman el Don News Editor

"Look. It is the sun. For thousands of years ancient peoples have worshipped the sun for its power of light and heat. They have tried to grasp that power or reinvent the sun by using fire. It is unusual that on such a dark day the sun can shine so brightly."

This is what RSC philosophy instructor John Velasquez said as he examined a cracked clay adaptation of the sun that he discovered while sifting through the charred ruins of what was once his home for more than 21 years.

What was once a lush, thriving ecosystem has been reduced to a colorless mass of ruin.

"Everything is gone. My library and all its books... gone."

John's Laguna Beach home was levelled by the fire that struck Orange County over two weeks ago. A fire that destroyed most of the homes on his block, yet left others virtually untouched.

Because he could not bypass traffic on the freeway to find out for himself if his house had survived, he learned over the phone that his home had been decimated by the fury of the blaze.

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"I called a friend who lives in my neighborhood to see if she was alright and she told me that my home was gone.

John is dealing with the tragedy in an admirable fashion. "Losing my home has caused me to enter into a deep, almost trance-like level of meditation. I look at what has happened and try to find something useful from it. My therapy is to sift through and find what has survived."

He estimates that it will take almost two years to rebuild his home, but the intangibles can never be replaced.

"The city of Laguna Beach is moving quickly with the building permits," John said.

In the meantime, John will be in the process of rebuilding his life.
"I need to re-adjust my bank ac-

count... Just so many things that I need to do. And I'm starting from nothing."
He has begun to realize he has lost

everything.

"All of my folk art that I spent a lifetime collecting is gone. Even something as simple as a toothbrush is

missed."

John is trying to turn this horrible experience into something positive.

"I am going to take some of my belongings (folk art, pottery, etc.) that were destroyed in the fire and create an art exhibit to show the people at RSC. I want people to know about the power of fire. I want them to know how it can change things. I want to be able to help people who will go through this sort of tragedy in the future."

"John is taking this tragedy and turning it into a positive human experience," said RSC Chancellor Vivian Blevins.

Virtually the only possessions that survived the fire are a few of John's plants.

John Velasquez, an RSC
philosophy instructor, is one of
many in Laguna Beach that lost
their homes in the recent fires
that scorched Southern
California. Now, when all seems
lost, he searches for any
salvageable item from his
21-year-old house that might
bring joy back into his life.



Weekly

MOVIE RENTALS 1. INDECENT PROPOSAL

Paramount 2. COP AND A MALE MCA/Universal

3. ALADIN Disney

4. THE SANDLOT FoxVideo

5. GROUNDHOG DAY

Columbia TriStar 6. LOADED WEAPON I

New Line 7. SIDEKICKS

Columbia TriStar

8. POINT OF NO RETURN Warner

9. SCENT OF A WOMAN MCA/Universal

10. THREE OF HEARTS

Columbia TriStar

1. THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

Robert James Waller, Warner SLOW WALTZ IN CEDAR BEND

Robert James Waller, Warner

3. NIGHTMARES & DREAMSCAPES

Stephen King, Viking 4. LASHER

Anne Rice, Knoph

5. WITHOUT REMORSE Tom Clancy, Putnam

6. DECIDER Dick Francis, Putnam

7. SACRED CLOWNS

Tony Hillerman, HarperCollins

8. THE GOLDEN MEAN

Nick Bantock, Chronicle 9. LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE

Laura Esquivel, Doubleday

10. A DANGEROUS FORTUNE

Ken Follett, Delacorte CONCERTS

Fargo, N.D.

\$3,104,220 1. BILLY JOEL Philadelphia 2. GARTH BROOKS \$870,000

3. LUTHER VANDROSS \$859,320

4. DEPECHE MODE/THE THE \$745,805 Rosemont, Il.

5. DEPECHE MODE/THE THE \$651,290

Auburn Hills, Mich.

6. MADONNA \$500,280

7. ELTON JOHN/RAY COOPER \$474,640

Portland, Maine 8. BLACK/WYNONNA/ JACKSON \$406,920

Mountain View, Calif. 9. ELTON JOHN/RAY COOPER \$337,665

Providence, R.I.

.ELTON JOHN

Ann Arbor, Mich.

\$291,178 "Pray for us," chants Rita.

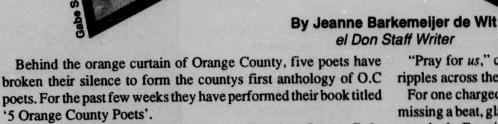
Orange County Poets captivates audience after performing their latest book which is O.C.'s first anthology



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Mary Andrews, Rita McMahon Mitzner, Francisco Ortega, Catherine Spear, Gary Lee Tomlinson. They are a strange amalgam, these five. Individuals each, yet together forming something more. Perhaps much more than anyone imagined they would be, these new age troubadours.

When they enter the smoke filled Casa Palma lounge, the sound level drops from a muffled roar to crystalline silence. Silence so dense you hear the soft rustling of pages, as one by one, each opens their black bound books to read. Together, these five work the room, each building upon the other; presenting images which shock, mesmerize, entice, repel, and fascinate the audience.

Catherine's voice, rich and melodic, is full of thunder. Her eyes spark with flame. Francisco, begins slowly, almost tauntingly, then explodes with emotion. Mary speaks with passion in whispers and sighs, unobtrusively drawing the listener ever deeper into her world. Gary, laughter in his limpid eyes, surprises, shocks, and seduces, with his powerful voice. Rita, earth mother, deftly transmutes pain into ecstacy.

"Nuestra Señora, La Reina de Los Angeles," sings Catherine, as she begins her piece "In the City of the Angels."

One by one, the others join in. "Pray for us," chants Francisco.

"Pray for us," chants Gary with ill concealed mischief. Laughter ripples across the room.

For one charged instant, Catherine, fiery eyed, still singing, never missing a beat, glances in Gary's direction. Quickly, fleetingly, their eyes lock. Emotion flares, then dissipates as suddenly as it began. The poem continues, increasing in volume and intensity.

It is spring 1992, Los Angeles is burning, shrouded in flame.

"Burn in hell, burn in L.A., hell is L.A.," growls Catherine, from deep within her throat.

What irony, smoke, flame, visions of hell, only days after this year's firestorm has ended.

"Hell is here, hell is now, is forever, eternal,

it is the rage,

it is the flames,

is the dying.

Lie down in ashes, mourn the beloved."

Smoke drifts lazily upward from a half dozen smoldering cigarettes, punctuating the mood and shrouding the room in a thick gray haze. As if on cue, Santa Ana winds once again begin to shift and saunter outside. What irony, as flames crackle and dance in each listener's eyes.

Released by Lightening Publications, '5 Orange County Poets' is a compilation of works by the above mentioned poets. The first of its kind in Orange County history. Sales are doing so well, that the poets recently signed a regional distribution agreement with Sunbelt Publications, a major southwestern distributor.



By DonEl Lincoln el Don Staff Writer

It's easy to make promises when you're in love. Peter has never met anyone like Rita, and promises come easily to his lips. In the fantasy romance "Prelude to a Kiss," Peter Hoskins discovers promises made to Rita, on the eve of their wedding, will face the most incredible test.

Is it true that the love, which now fills his heart, will remain when age has stolen Rita's fresh young beauty?

For Rita 'be careful what you wish, it just might come true' is an adage she will come to appreciate in a new way. Fearful of what the future holds, she faces the challenges of life with reluctance. Momentarily she envies the elderly. For them the difficulties and fears of life are almost over.

Before the curtain falls for the last time on 'Prelude,' both these young lovers will have learned some deep lessons about life, and each other.

In choosing 'Prelude' as the next Theater Arts Department production Sheryl Donchey, the department's chair, cited diversity as a major goal.

The department recently produced a delightful version of the classic American play, "The Royal Family," in which Donchey

For 'Prelude' the department's contemporary presentation, the versatile Donchey will take the director's chair.

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Preview Theater

What: Prelude to a Kiss

Where: RSC's Phillips Hall Little

Theater West, Santa Ana Campus ♦ When: Thursday, November 18 through 28. Evening performances begin at 8 p.m., and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m.

♦ How much: \$8 general admis-

sion; \$6 for students and seniors. ◆ Call: (714) 564-5661

◆ Bottom line: This is a romantic comedy about a young couple whose love is tested by the supernatural.

to date. We wanted a play with name recognition," she said.

'Prelude' was chosen because of the recent movie released in 1992 by 20th Century Fox. The movie starred Alec Baldwin, Meg Ryan and Sydney Walker.

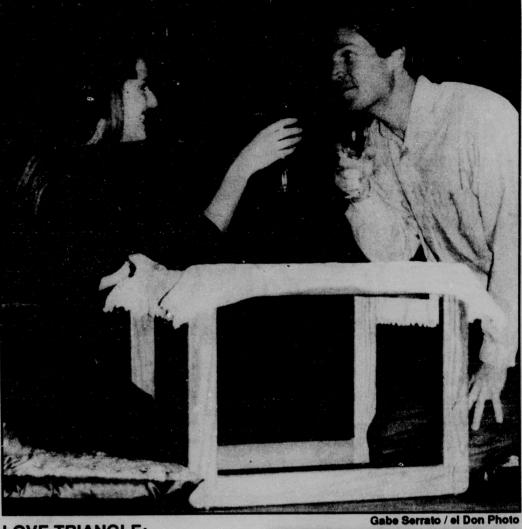
"We also wanted something that appeals to our young college audience," Donchey

Casting 'Prelude' did present certain challenges, Donchey said.

An extraordinary opportunity was presented with the availability of Ralph Richmond. This talented guest artist may be remembered by RSC theater-goers for his superb portrayal of Mordecai Weiss in "A Shayna Maidel."

Completing the cast are:

Lisa Beil (Mrs. Boyle) seen as Kitty Dean in RSC's production of "Royal Family;"



LOVE TRIANGLE:

(above) Peter Hoskins (Damon Carr) and Rita Boyle (Ryan Larson) are two lovers in this romantic fairy tale.

(right) After speaking with 'Old Man' (Ralph Richmond), Hoskins discovers things aren't always what they seem.

............

Damon Carr (Peter Hoskins) was featured in last season's "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Taming of the Shrew" and "Three Musket-

Michael Dennick (Taylor) was a dashing Perry Stewart in "Royal Family;"

Ryan Larson (Rita Boyle) appeared in last season's "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Musketeers:"

and James Rice, (Dr. Boy) a terrific Oscar Wolfe in "The Royal Family."



What's kickin in O.C. **CLUBS** Let's boogle If you have two left feet sons and live entertainment. So grab a date, your boots and head out to the Cowboy Boogie Co., in Anaheim. You must be 21 or over. Call 956-1412 for directions.

JAVA

Take a break

After a hard day at school grab a cup of java, relax the nerves and sit back and listen to some tunes at the Renaissance Cafe located at 2959 El Camino Real, Tustin. Call 832-2233 for entertainment schedule.

PLACES

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taurant in Placentia offers

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a live Mariachi band. Call

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Family fun

Spend the afternoon at the Costa Mesa Fair Grounds which 'osting a Harvest .n Nov. 19-21, fea-Festi. turing cruit demonstrations, live entertainment and gourmet tood. Call 999-8900.

FLICKS

Lost barrio

Carlito's Way is a new movie about a retired drug dealer who is released from prison after serving five years and discovers his barrio has changed. Check out this film which stars Al Pacino and Sean Penn. Opens at theaters Friday.





■Staff Editorials

Fires rage through the Southland

Over the past few weeks we've witnessed some of the most destructive fires in California's history.

Thousands of people lived through the nightmare, while watching their homes and possessions go up in smoke.

What is more frightening, however, is the thought that someone would intentionally set off a fire of such magnitude for sheer delight. Arsonists obviously have animalistic and inhumane characteristics to conceive of and execute such an evil act.

Most people who lived in Laguna Beach and Malibu were probably aware of the possibility of brush fires. It is one of mother nature's perils of living in the area. It's doubtful, though, that these people expected their houses to be destroyed by fires set by man rather than nature.

Those thousands who were left homeless may or may not rebuild for different reasons. Some may be tired of running from their homes year after year while others may not be able to handle the stress at the sound of the infamous Santa Ana winds.

However, there are those who will return to build in the area they were drawn to for its majestic beauty. Who can blame them?

There really is no place free of natural disasters. You can move to the midwest and see your house under flood waters from overflowing rivers or demolished by ravaging tornadoes that can drop from the sky without any warning. No matter where you live, natural disasters are going to happen. However, disasters that were intentional or caused by accident are more tragic than anything mother nature is capable of.

How now, brown cow?

Last Sunday at 2 a.m. Bossie the cow made a wrong turn. She went for a stroll on the I-405. After the police allegedly tried to run her off the road. Bossie turned around and headed the wrong way. Apparently believing that no solution was possible, the cops leveled their .45s and it rained lead. Bossie the cow soon gave up the ghost. It was no walk in the park either, it took them 43 shots to drop her. Their hands must've been sore after the bloody massacre--43 shots...ouch. Poor old Bossie never had a chance. Even though she was running the wrong way on the freeway at 2 a.m., (which we suspect could be considered a suspicious activity) this kind of target practice was way out of order. Why was Bossie stopped in the first place? Granted, she was moving slowly along the freeway. But does that give the police any right to pump her full of lead? We think not. Excess methane emissions? Yeah right, a likely excuse. We think that this blatant bovine abuse should be punished severely. If nothing else, the officers who shot her should be forced to walk blindfolded through the steamy pastures that Bossie once romped in.

All kidding aside, cows are big strong animals. Human lives could have been endangered if it crossed over into opposing traffic. We fail to understand though, how trained police officers, armed with one of the most powerful handguns made, couldn't down a cow with any less than 43 bullets. We hope that these cops never have to stand between an armed criminal and an innocent bystander. Who knows what might happen if someone were shooting back at them.

Random Notes from Jason Reed

A \$5 million lawsuit has been filed by the family of a boy injured during a drive-by shooting on Nov. 4, 1992. The interesting aspect of this lawsuit is that there are two sets of defendants; the alleged attackers and the Saddleback Valley Unified School District. I guess that since the attack occurred while Philip Lott was walking home from El Toro High School, his family decided that the school district should share the blame.

Violent acts happen in the real world (which includes South Orange County). When these terrible events transpire, blame has a way of being pushed onto the shoulders of those involved, regardless of fault.

In this case, the lawsuit contends that the school had prior knowledge of the possibility of violence against Lott and failed to use ordinary care in his supervision. Let's look at this rationale. First, If the school knew about it, then the kid knew about it. Second, if the kid knew about it and still couldn't avoid it then how can the school be expected to do anything about it?

I don't know about all of you, but if I had any inkling that I might have the slightest chance of coming into harms grasp, I'd do everything in my power to avoid it. Third graders who've been threatened tell a teacher; high schoolers who've been threatened call the cops. Who's to blame? The attackers? Yes. The school district? No way. Scapegoatism is a filthy disease.

Minh Quang Tran, 22, did something dumb last week. He was arrested after he tried to buy a county firefighter's shirt while allegedly impersonating a fireman. Amidst 24-hour media coverage and fears of new fires, this was probably not the wisest

time to try something like this. He faces charges of impersonating a firefighter and possession of stolen property.

Investigators found an O.C. firefighter's badge and other firefighting gear in his car. Tran was questioned by arson investigators, but has not been named as a suspect. His bail was set at \$10,000. Central Orange County Municipal Judge Richard W. Stanford Jr. refused to release Tran on his own recognizance due to "erratic" behavior. I understand that everyone was pretty stressed out about the fires then, but if there hadn't been fires raging, Tran would have been released "O.R."

The guy just sounds like a fire enthusiast to me. His license plate is RESQ911 for cryin' out loud. Oh well, I guess timing is important, and his was way off.

NAFTA...

It's like FBI, MPG and IRS; it doesn't need to be spelled out. What it does need is some more explaining. Will it create or steal jobs? Is this even the main focus of the agreement? I think that the most important facet is that it eventually eliminates trade barriers and tarrifs in North America, opening the way to a worldwide free market. This will, without a doubt, save money for American consumers.

What about Ross Perot's theory that since Mexican labor is cheap, businesses will flock down there? What's holding them here now? The same thing that will keep them here when (and if) NAFTA passes. American skilled labor. In this country, when we want to, we can put out a kick-ass product. I hope it passes, for the good of future Americans, for a prosperous worldwide economy and because Ross Perot really pisses me off.



Mailbox Policy



El Don encourages expression of all views. Letters should be brief and to the point. All letters should include your student ID number and may be edited for length and clarity. Letters to el Don may be delivered to room C-201, or mailed to RSC el Don, Mailbox, 17th at Bristol streets, Santa Ana, CA 92706. Please include your home phone number.

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— C.P. Scott

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"Guns are just a tool for committing a crime. The adage 'guns don't kill people, people do' while perhaps corny, is true."

By Jason Spielfogel el Don Staff Writer

I've been around guns all my life. I'm not in a gang. No one in my family is in law enforcement, and I've never been hunting in

I've never shot anybody, or for that matter, even pointed a gun at another person. God willing, I will never have to.

I would like to think that I'm an average gun owner; that most people who own guns hold my hope of never having to use their gun for what it was designed to do, kill.

The ability to commit a crime and murder someone in cold blood, or drive by and fire shots into a crowd in hopes of hitting someone from a rival gang makes me nauseous and disgusted.

Proponents of gun control would have us believe that the prob-

lems of crime and violence in this country are as easy to solve as taking the guns off the streets. At the forefront of the debate are semi-automatic assault rifles.

In 1991, New Jersey passed legislation which completely banned assault-type weapons. Its effect, according to a study by the New Jersey Attorney General's office was negligible at best. Of the tens of thousands believed by authorities to exist in the state, only 2,000 assault rifles were turned in. Despite the remaining bounty of these rifles, crimes committed with them accounted for less than one quarter of 1 percent of the total crimes committed involving guns in the state.

This example shows a twofold oversight in gun control legislation. First, any gun control measure short of a national ban and recall on all guns would be pointless. Even if such a

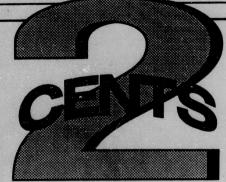
measure were to pass, could the government realistically be expected to confiscate the estimated 200 million firearms possessed by the American public? Certainly, we can't expect the criminals to turn in their guns.

Secondly, guns are just a tool for committing a crime. The adage "guns don't kill, people do" while perhaps corny, is true. In 1992, according to government statistics, 37 percent of all homicides were not gun related. The problem is an increasingly violent society, not the tools used to commit the atrocities.

None of this even takes the second amendment into account, which is the core the pro-gunownership lobby's argument. The second amendment reads: "a wellregulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Those championing

gun control believe that this provision of the Bill of Rights applies to and only to the state's right to have a militia that is separate from any federal military branch. Others, myself among them, believe that the provision was designed to keep any future government in check and free from tyranny. Ask yourself a question; which is more frightening, the people out-gunning the government or the govemment out-gunning the people? Just one look at China lends me to believe that the latter is the scarier of the two scenarios.

I, as a gun owner, take pride in my right as an American to own a gun. I recognize that gun use in crime is a definite and frightening problem in this country. But until we treat the social diseases that cause people to commit these crimes, getting rid of or regulating the guns is just another shot in the dark.



■ We asked some RSC students their opinions regarding gun control policies in the United States. These are some responses we received.

"The government should regulate gun policy because there are too many irresponsible people with easy access to firearms."



Patrick Thomas



"I'm from Morocco and I feel the U.S. policies are very loose, because where I'm from if you have a gun in your possesion you go to jail."

Souheil Awab

"I'm for gun control because there are too many guns in society and many innocent people die from them."



■ Mailbox



El Don's investigative news stories praised

Your recent reporting of the rather warm water that RSC's board of trustees have found themselves in with regard to dealing with the illegal \$1 material fee is to be commended! Good job! Please don't stop there. I suggest that the investigative reporters at el Don look at other areas which may shed additional light as to the management priorities of this community college district.

The Santa Ana Campus is closed to students on Friday afternoons and the Orange Campus is closed completely to students on Fridays. This should be criminal! Is this decision made so that students can be better served? Or maybe closing the campuses may provide additional funds so that payroll will not have to be cut? RSC Chancellor Vivian Blevins is quoted as saying that staffing has been trimmed "down to the marrow." I am skeptical. I suspect that every effort has been made to keep the payroll as fat as ever at RSC. This would be a good area to examine.

A second area that I suggest your reporters explore is the bookstore. What if the price of each book were to increase by \$1? Would this \$1 (mandatory) fee differ from the \$1 fee that is being returned? I suspect that the price of books at the bookstore have increased by more than \$1 recently. Where are the profits from the bookstore going?

Farmers know that every hog in the pen long. When the slop flow slows, boards of directors decide to seek alternate funding means instead of putting the hogs on a diet. Those feeding at the public trough should never come before students! Perhaps el Don will play a part in making this so.

Sincerely, Randall May

Faculty member disagrees with letter

I write this letter in response to a portion of a letter by Mr. James R. Maxwell which appeared in el Don on October 15, 1993. I am not privy to the full range of debate to which Maxwell's letter alludes, but would like to offer some corrective suggestions on social cost accounting, the subject which dominates his letter.

Maxwell quotes the Register (1/17/93) as follows: "Recent studies in Los Angeles and San Diego counties show that the local tax revenue generated by undocumented workers (u.w.) does not come close to paying for the services they and their families use." But it is not clear what method these studies use to determine the income contribution side of the equation that they state. Let's ask some questions of the letter writer, the newspaper, and these "studies."

1. In calculating the property tax contriburuns to the trough at slop time. The taxpay- tion of u.w.'s are only the direct payments of ers have slopped too many hogs for too u.w.'s who are property owners counted, or is the entire tax due on all rental property they rent counted as well?

> 2. Are the state sales tax contributions of u.w.'s, approximately 7 percent on half of their net income each year, counted on the contribution side?

> 3. Though here illegally, are u.w.'s credited with generating 1/16th (their estimated proportion of the population) of California's corporation, gasoline, tobacco and liquor taxes, as well as 1/16th of the state's oil and timber royalties?

> 4. In instances where u.w.'s are paid \$5 per hour but the unimproved product of their labor is worth \$15 per hour, do the studies credit them with making an uncompensated \$10 per hour contribution to California's economy, hence a contribution to the public sector budget through income taxes on individual and corporate owners of business?

The answers to these questions, and others I could generate, would cast light on the issue apparently under discussion. Do u.w.'s really drain resources from our state and nation, without returning an equal or greater contribution? Many think so. Yet, the discussion is often superficial, the data vague, and the methods impressionistic. Moreover, the issue is not new.

In the late-19th century South, similar arguments were made about how blacks were a drain on white taxpayers, prompting calls

Helie Nazaraia



"I'm for gun control because its getting out of hand in the schools with the metal detectors and I feel the future of America is in danger."

Trupti Nagarwadia

for laws to require blacks to support their own school system. In 1901 the black scholar W.E.B. DuBois published a study--which included a social cost accounting ofblack education (The Negro Common School)-subtly attacking the ideology-tinted economics which buttressed such proposals. DuBois concluded that "the Negro school systems of the former Slave States have not cost the white taxpayers a cent." (p. 91) Unable to refute his analysis, and fearful of a fair division of tax monies, southern leaders dropped the idea of "privatizing" black schools; they simply kept them segregated and underfunded, taxing blacks to support white-only systems.

Do we have to relive this history again in California? Can we even think clearly about subjects which touch on race? Only time will tell.

> Harold S. Forsythe Chair: Ethnic Studies

Feature

PAGE 10

RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE el Lon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1993

Math + Teacher = Success

Math instructor Mary Anne

Anthony wins Distinguished

Faculty Award for active

learning project and her

community service

By Bettina Nellen el Don Staff Writer

ary Anne Anthony, math instructor at RSC, has one less problem to worry about this year than everyone else who drives to school.

From now until the end of this year, she enjoys her own parking space.

However, this privilege represents only a part of the acknowledgement Anthony received as an outstanding faculty member. She won RSC's Seventh Annual Distinguished Faculty Award, "the most prestigious award for the faculty," said Carolyn Breeden, dean of learning resources.

The award is granted yearly for teaching excellence, and the winner receives a \$500 stipend from the RSC Foundation in addition to the personal parking space.

Anthony was chosen by a seven member committee comprised of three faculty, two administrators, last year's Distinguished Faculty Award winner and the Associated Student Government president.

"We chose her because of her excellent work in the classroom and her work in the community, her leadership in the Classroom Research Project and her contributions to staff development," said Gloria Guzman, president of the academic senate and member of this year's committee.

For five years Anthony devoted herself as coordinator of the Classroom Research Project. Seventy full-time teachers, as well as part-time teachers, were involved in experiments emphasizing the importance of active students.

The project, sponsored by a federal grant, is aimed at what is called active learning, where teachers try to get students more involved in cooperative group activities during class and move away from the passive lecture.

"It's not the norm any more that the teacher will go into the class, talk for 50 minutes, and the students will write things down and leave," Anthony said. Students are expected to participate more actively in the classroom. As a result, the whole atmosphere of what is going on in RSC classrooms has changed. The focus was directed toward the students' needs. Teaching has become more student-ori-

"The award was really for everybody," Anthony said. "All those teachers did such a good job."

Besides her engagement as coordinator of the Classroom Research Project, Anthony contributed to various district research publications and delivered presentations on classroom research and mathematics at numerous professional conferences.

In addition to all these activities, she supported instruction in many different ways. She is the editor of the "Within the Classroom" newsletter, co-chair of the Faculty Development Committee, chair of the Research Committee, member of the editorial board of FARSIGHT, faculty leader of the LARC/FIPSE Classroom Research Project, coordinator of the LARC math project, member of the Academic Senate and faculty researcher with the Office of Institutional Research.

Anthony has been teaching at RSC since 1976. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from UC San Diego in 1973 and added a Master's in Statistics from San Diego State University two years later. In 1984 she received a second Master's in Educational Computing from Pepperdine University.



ADDING UP

to always be in a pinch for time.

going to do," she said.

Joyce DeVries / el Don Photo ranaging a full-time job as well as a family, Mary Anne Anthony who is a mother of three, knows what it takes

Being raised in an educational atmosphere (her father was a professor) lured Anthony into a teaching career herself. The opportunity of talking to many teachers who enjoyed their job and received great satisfaction from it contributed to her early choice. "I always knew that that's what I was

However, for one year at college she toyed with the idea of being a computer programmer but gave it up instantly once the classes she was enrolled in began to focus on the technical side of computers. "I had no interest at all in the wiring and connecting things," she said.

She was more concerned about what was going on inside of the classrooms. About 10 years ago, changes in the population started to affect the classroom, she said. Now, Santa Ana has to cope with more students with fewer English speaking skills. "It's something we have learned as teachers to deal with," Anthony said. "The communication is more difficult."

Anthony is aware that lack of time is an increasing problem for students who have outside commitments.

"People just don't have the same amount of time to give to my class because they have other classes, and they have jobs and families to take care of, too," she said.

She knows what it means to always be in a pinch for time. The mere mention of spare time makes her burst into a hearty laugh. "What spare time? I have three children," she said. "That's my spare time."

Managing a full-time job as well as a family wouldn't have

been possible if she hadn't received the support of her husband, who is also a math instructor at RSC, and her parents.

"If my husband had a job where he went to the office at 7a.m. and didn't come home until 7p.m., it would have been much more difficult to manage," she said.

Whenever she is in need of child care she relies on her parents, who are retired. "I am very fortunate that I can call Mom and Dad and say 'HELP'," she said.

Anthony knows what price she is paying for her overwhelming engagement.

"You put yourself on low priority," she said. "I know there are things I should do. I should be exercising ... I should read a book once in a while. Well, too bad. There's only so many hours in the day, and there are more pressing demands that need to be met. It's not easy."

On Wednesday, Nov. 17, RSC is celebrating the Seventh Annual Distinguished Faculty Award. Anthony is giving a speech entitled "Within the Classroom: Zip the Gap", discussing the Classroom Research Project, how she implemented the program at RSC and about the people who participate and make it successful. A reception will follow

"We have invited people from all over the state," said Breeden. "We're very pleased and proud that Mary Anne is the recipient, and we want to make it a very special day for her."

Anthony's presentation starts at noon in Phillips Hall.

Sportsline

SCOREBOARD

W. V-BALL

Wed. Nov. 3 **Next Game:** 11 14 7 Fri. Nov. 12 RSC Fullerton 15 16 15 at Home 7 p.m.

SOCCER

Tues. Oct.	26	Next Game
RSC	1	Today
G. West	3	at Cypress
		3 p.m.

WATER POLO

Sat. Nov. 6		Next Game
RSC	8	Nov. 12-13
SD Mesa	5	So. Champ
		8 a.m.

WRESTLING

Wed. Nov. 3		Next Game:
RSC	44	Sat. Nov. 13
SB Valley	0	at Cal Poly
		All Day

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LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

G. West	24	RSC	14
Riverside	24	occ	22
Saddleback	20	Fullerton	12

SCHEDULE Sat. Nov. 13

Fullerton at RSC 1:30 p.m. Golden West at Riverside 7 p.m. Orange Coast at Saddleback 7 p.m.

Golden West runs wild over Rancho, 24-14

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE - After three quarters of lackluster play between Golden West College and Rancho Santiago, sparks finally began to fly in the fourth as the Rustlers corralled and hog-tied the Dons 24-14.

Golden West scored first when placekicker Mark Wersching booted a 41-yard field goal four minutes into the game.

The Dons came right back, driving 65 yards for the go-ahead touchdown. Running back Donnie Bladow plunged in from the one-yard line to give RSC a 7-3 lead into halftime.

Late in the third quarter, the Rustlers were driving when quarterback Steve Walker was intercepted by Dons' safety Mike Castleberry, who ran 53 yards the other way for a touchdown. RSC led 14-3 going into the fourth quarter.

Rustler tailback Vance Senteno ran rampant scoring three touchdowns in just over eight minutes, including an 80-yard burst up the middle with 3:45 left to give Golden West the victory.

The Dons fell to 2-5-1 (1-3), while the Rustlers improved to 4-4 (2-2). Rancho's next game is at home Saturday against Fullerton College. Game time is 1:30 p.m.

RSC poised to sting Hornets

■ Rancho seeks to rebound from fourth quarter collapse

By Mark A. Peinado el Don Sports Editor

RSC is looking to repeat last year's 29-28 fourth quarter come from behind victory against Fullerton College as both teams renew the oldest rivalry in community college history.

The Dons have lost five of their last games and are hurting on both sides of the ball. Starting running back Donnie Bladow and starting linebacker Fred Romo are both injured and won't play this week. Safety Mike Castleberry missed practice this week but still is expected to play.

With Bladow out, freshman running back Ernest Wilson will have to shoulder the load and the Dons will have to rely on spreading the ball around to its receiving corp.

"We're a group of walking wounded this week," said Dave Ogas, Dons head coach. "The backups will be getting a lot more of playing time this week. I know they're still gonna play hard. Fullerton has a good passing game and two of the top receivers in the conference."

The Hornets are 3-5 (0-3) and coached by former Cal State Fullerton head coach Gene Murphy.

Fullerton possesses a good passing game led by quarterback Josh Nelson, wide receivers Vince Nelson and Ryan Roskelly.

"These kids have all the motivation in the world," said Murphy, "and are filled with incentive, which makes them hard workers in practice."

RSC GAME DAY

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 13 at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Santa Ana Stadium

SERIES: Rancho Santiago won last year's contest 29-28. The Hornets lead the Dons in the overall series 33-

HEAD COACHES: Dave Ogas is in his 12th season as Dons' coach with a record of 58-60-2. Gene Murphy is in his first year as Fullerton head coach with a record of 3-5.

Dons' season treading water

Jeremy Yorba breaks single season goal scoring record of current U.S. Olympian

By Brian Copeland el Don Staff Writer

A 13-10 loss to Orange Coast College in the Orange Empire Conference semifinals Nov. 6 may prove costly for RSC's water polo team in this week's Southern California championships at Belmont Plaza in Long Beach.

In the Orange Empire championships, the Dons opened with a 12-11 win over Saddleback, following the loss to OCC, they sank San Diego Mesa 8-5 to salvage a third place finish in the tournament.

RSC has controlled its own destiny going into both the So. Calif. and state tourna- College as its first round opponent in the So. Doug Kimbell in 1979.

ments. Despite an overall record of 22-9-2, RSC lacks the wins over the more powerful teams. Victories over conference rivals like Grossmont, OCC, Long Beach City College, Citrus or Cypress would have elevated their seeding in the Southern California Tournament this weekend.

The Dons lost a much needed game against Grossmont 17-7 on Oct. 29. RSC managed a tie with Citrus College and wins over L. A. Pierce and Santa Monica City Colleges in the Citrus tournament only helped their overall

By this weekend, the Dons' season may already be over. RSC drew Long Beach City

Calif. championships.

LBCC is ranked second in the state and will play the Dons on Nov. 10. This happened when El Camino upset LBCC in their conference tournament, lowering the LBCC seed into the RSC bracket.

"We normally win our first match in the tourney," said RSC head coach Bobby Gaughran Sr. "We could beat LBCC in the first round, but we would also have to defeat OCC and Grossmont, etc.'

Win or lose, the water polo season has been a good one. RSC's overall record sits at 22-9-2 and the conference record at 3-3 going into this weekend's play.

Jeremy Yorba established a new Rancho season scoring record with 115 goals this season. He broke old mark of 109 set by

RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE Athletes of the week

WATER POLO

Sophomore

Major: Undecided

<u>State:</u> Yorba broke the Dona scoring record for goals in a season with 115. He is also in the top three in scoring.



"I want to go to a fouryear school. I don't know which one right now but I know I can go anywhere I

Jeremy Yorba



VOLLEYBALL

208 /// Outside hitter/Freshman

Major: Nursing

<u>State:</u> Parks had team highs in kills and digs versus OCC. She is saventh in the conference in kills and fifth in digs.



"I hope to go to any fouryear school that will pay my whole way but first I have to start taking my classes for my major."

Brenda Parks

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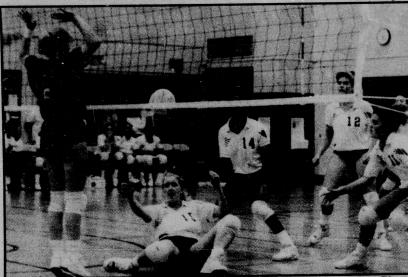
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RSC women pillage OCC



SLIDIN' AWAY

Kathy Farina (15) attempts a dig during a Dons' loss to Fullerton.

Dons come back from a two games to none deficit to defeat Pirates in five

By Bettina Nellen el Don Staff Writer

WOMEN'S GYM - RSC's women's volleyball team defeated Orange Coast College in a hard fought, come from behind, five-game match on Nov. 5. The scores were 9-15, 12-15, 15-13, 15-8, 15-12.

The Dons lost the first two games and were down 7-1 in the third before starting their tremendous comeback. Undismayed, the team refocused. Trailing 10-7, OCC called their second timeout and tied the game at 11. But Rancho would not be denied and won 15-13.

Playing with more confidence after winning the third game, the Dons stepped up the pace. Team captain and setter Kathy Farina, despite playing with a sore back, started setting more precisely and made better use of her hitters as RSC took the fourth game 15-8 to tie the match.

Down 11-9 in a tense fifth game, Cummings brought Keryn Oliver in to serve for Jackie Lyen. The move paid off as Oliver served the team to 13-11. At 13-12 the Dons forced an OCC side out, then punched it in twice for 15-12 victory.

The Dons' next match is Friday, Nov. 12 at home against Riverside College. Game time is 7 p.m.

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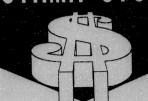


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